GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1647
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Upgradation of Agriculture Science Centres
Ram Shri Janak

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to upgrade and modernize the existing agriculture science centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(c) the amount fixed for this purpose for the 12th Five Year plan period, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that several cases of irregularities in the functioning of these Agriculture Science Centres have come to the notice of the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. The Government has approved for modernization/revitalization of selected KVKs with new facilities viz. Technology Information Unit, Mini Seed Processing facility, Provision of 25 KVA silent Genset to KVKs, Micro Nutrient Analysis facility, Establishment of vKVK and KVK Net and Specialized KVKs. In addition, provision has been made for providing additional facilities like Rain Water Harvesting Structure with Micro Irrigation System, Soil and Water Testing facility, Minimal Processing facility, Carp Hatchery facility, Integrated Farming System (IFS) and for e-Extension facility to selected KVKs. The State/UT-wise number of KVKs and funds earmarked for modernization/revitalization with new facilities and additional facilities during XII Plan is given at Annexure-I.

(d) & (e): Some administrative problems and irregularities have been reported in KVK, Unnao (U.P), KVK, Guntur (Andhra Pradesh), KVK, Nanded (Maharashtra), KVK, Jamui (Bihar), KVK, Tirunelveli (T.N) & KVK,Thanjvaur (T.N). The KVK-wise details are as under:-

1. KVK Guntur (Andhra Pradesh):It was found that functioning of KVK, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh has been affected due to dispute amongst the management of the Host Organization which is sub − judice.

2. KVK, Nanded (Maharashtra): The KVK , Nanded, Maharashtra had some administrative issues concerning use and maintenance of KVK infrastructure, holding of scientific advisory committee meetings regularly and made procedural lapses in maintenance of records for which corrective measures were suggested and the same have now been followed.

3. KVK, Unnao (Uttar Pradesh): Complaints have been received alleging irregularities related to ownership of land, recruitment of staff and functioning of KVK, Unnao, Uttar Pradesh. It was decided that KVKs under NGOs established w.e.f. 13.01.2005 will have to mortgage their land in favour of ICAR. However, the KVK Unnao was established in 1999 and there was no such clause in the MoU signed between the NGO managing the KVK and the ICAR. Therefore, mortgage of land of the KVK cannot be enforced. Further, a committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Director, IISR, Lucknow to fill up all the vacancies of KVK Unnao.

4. KVK, Jamui (Bihar): There was a dispute regarding ownership of the land between the two related organizations and a committee was constituted for investigating the issue. Based on the recommendations of the Committee it has been decided to continue with the ownership of the KVK with the existing NGO (Shrambharti Khadigram).

5. KVK, Thanjvaur & KVK, Tirunelveli (Tamilnadu): There were also complaints regarding irregularities in KVK Thanjvaur and KVK Tirunelveli of Tamilnadu related to construction and unauthorized use of buildings, appointment of staff, payment of salary to employees and diversion of funds. The matter has been investigated by a committee. In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, inadmissible expenditure at the KVK, Thanjvaur has been worked-out and legal advice sought for further course of action. The case of KVK, Tirunelveli is sub-judice.

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